State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program

Executive Summary of the Missouri Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division

Mapping Summary:

The Missouri Office of Administration's Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) was designated by Governor Nixon as the Missouri entity eligible to receive a federal mapping grant under the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program. Specifically Missouri's Geographic Information Officer is the point of contact. The ITSD applied for \$1,503,151 to cover broadband mapping activities for the first two years of this five year program, as well as \$470,231 for broadband planning activities within the first two years.

The State of Missouri has partnered with the University of Missouri to collect information on community anchor points (Schools, Courthouses, etc.) as well as to provide an independent source of evaluation for the data collection and mapping efforts, much of which will be based on public information sources and materials gathered or provided by the State. The University will be teaming with St. Louis-based GeoDecisions and its partner, CBG Communications, Inc. to aid in the initial collection of confidential information from broadband providers, development of mapped service boundaries, and provision of field sampling and census. It is our intent to develop and implement statewide initiatives to identify, model, map, and track the adoption and availability of broadband services as denoted in the grant program and outlined by the NTIA.

This grant work will interact with an estimated 95-110 broadband providers, putting non-disclosure agreements in place, and allowing data and information to be collected. This will permit the actual assessment and representation of where current broadband infrastructure exists and does not exist, on either an address-level, street level, or census block-level of detail. The project goal is to create a geographically accurate map of broadband infrastructure which when combined with population, demographics, and other data can provide a detailed assessment of the availability and nature of broadband across Missouri.

Planning Summary:

The planning work focuses on two components. The first will create Regional Technology Planning Teams within each of the state's 19 regional planning council regions to develop a Regional Broadband Adoption Plan. The second is to develop and host an Information Technology Summit to start the dialog and process toward a paradigm shift in how people in academia, business, industry, legislature, government, and even the local citizen think about information technology. The broadband mapping and subsequent deployment of this infrastructure investment is lost unless we recognize that information technology has become the foundational infrastructure for our economy, our education, our finance, our security, and many components of our quality life now and into the future.